

LONGBENTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

County of Northumberland

Library

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1964

OF

A. W. HAY

M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

AND

WILLIAM N. LOCKEY

C.R.S.H., Certified Meat Inspector

Senior Public Health Inspector

Longbenton

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OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Officer</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
Medical Officer of Health...	ARTHUR W. HAY	M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector ...	WILLIAM N. LOCKEY	M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., Sanitary Science Cert., R.S.H.
1st Additional Public Health Inspector	ROBERT P. BRUCE	M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., Smoke Inspector's Cert., Resigned November, 1964.
1st " " "	W. R. M. GRAY	Cert. S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., R.S.H. Commenced November, 1964.
Pupil Public Health Inspector ...	HARRY WILKINSON	Inter.P.H.I.E.B.

Longbenton Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
ARTHUR W. HAY
for the year ended 31st December, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Longbenton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the state of public health in the district during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

The population mid-year was estimated at 47,770 which is a slight reduction on last year. There will, however, be a rapid increase in population with the build-up of Killingworth New Town which is now taking place. It is interesting to note that the planning and expansion of Killingworth New Town will be closely followed and assisted by the Killingworth New Town Services Development Committee. This Committee includes representatives of the County Planning Committee as well as Longbenton Councillors, Doctors, Clergymen and Social Workers. The intention is to integrate new social services with the planned growth of the Town so that all aspects of Health and Welfare are catered for.

The general health of the public continues to be good and the incidence of infectious diseases continues to decline. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis, Smallpox, Typhoid, Paratyphoid, Meningitis or Diphtheria during the year. Tuberculosis continues to decline and the numbers suffering from this disease, registered with the Health Department, was 41 less at the end of the year in spite of 14 cases being transferred into the area as a result of re-housing from an adjacent authority. Although the numbers of Infectious Diseases are low it is important that

the general level of immunity in the district should be kept high in order to avoid recurrence of epidemics. It is particularly important that a high percentage of children continue to be immunised against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis. Courses of immunity against these diseases are provided free at all Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the area.

The main cause of death is once again diseases of the heart and circulation, including Coronary Thrombosis. The second commonest cause is Cancer in various forms. The main point of interest on examining the causes of death is the discrepancy in the incidence of certain diseases between males and females. For example 21 males died of cancer of the lung compared with only 3 female deaths. There is a similar discrepancy in the numbers of deaths from Coronary Thrombosis. This caused the death of 51 males but only 29 females. Respiratory diseases were responsible for the death of 32 males and only 14 females. In all these diseases there is an enormous preponderance of male deaths, the death rate for males being almost twice as great as that for females during the year. It may be that the smoking habits of the males could have some influence as it is known that excessive smoking predisposes to cancer of the lung and general respiratory diseases, and it is also thought to have some influence on the onset of Coronary Thrombosis.

The infant mortality figures continue to remain low and during last year they were about the same as the annual average for England and Wales. I am pleased to report that there were no deaths in association with child-birth, which is an index of the improving standard of maternal care both at home and in the hospitals available in the area.

As this is the last Annual Report with which Mr. Lockey, the Chief Public Health Inspector, will be associated before his well earned retirement, I would like to mention the great assistance he has been to the Health Department with his extensive local knowledge and his continued enthusiasm in public health matters.

In conclusion may I express my thanks to the Chief Officers of the Council for their helpful co-operation during the year, and thank also the members of the Council and Health Committee for their continued interest and support in all measures connected with the health of the population.

Your obedient servant,

A. W. HAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	6,786
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1964	47,770
Number of inhabited houses (31/3/65) according to Rate Book	14,638
Rateable Value (1/4/65)	£1,169,354
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1965/66) ...	£4,704

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief industry is coal mining, with the exception of the residential area of Benton and Forest Hall.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	375	378	753		
Illegitimate	12	17	29		
	<u>387</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>782</u>		
Still Births—Legitimate	3	6	9		
Illegitimate	—	1	1		
	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>		

DEATHS.	226	147	373
---------	-----	-----	-----

Comparability Factors:—

Births	0.87
Deaths	1.52

Live Births per 1,000 Population ...	16.37	corrected	14.24
Still births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	12.62	„	10.97

DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	7.78	„	11.85
--	------	---	-------

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births)
------------------------------	--------	--

Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR
OF AGE

					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	9	5	14
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
					<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>16</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS
OF AGE

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	8	5	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
					<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>14</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
					<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER
1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	20.46
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				18.59
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				68.96

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER
4 WEEKS OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	17.78
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				17.26
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				34.46

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1
WEEK OF AGE

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	11.50
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				10.62
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				34.46

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

Deaths from diseases of the Heart and Circulation...	...	175
Deaths from Cancer	...	83
Deaths from Respiratory Diseases	...	46

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LONGBENTON AREA, 1964.

Causes of Death						Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	226	147
1—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...					1	—
2—Other forms of Tuberculosis	...					—	—
3—Syphilitic diseases	...					—	1
4—Diphtheria...	...					—	—
5—Whooping Cough	...					—	—
6—Meningococcal infections...	...					—	—
7—Acute Poliomyelitis	...					—	—
8—Measles	...					—	—
9—Other infective and parasitic diseases	...					—	—
10—Cancer of stomach	...					6	4
11—Cancer of lung and bronchus	...					21	3
12—Cancer of breast	...					1	6
13—Cancer of uterus	...					—	7
14—Cancer of all other sites	...					24	11
15—Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...					—	—
16—Diabetes	...					1	—
17—Vascular lesions of nervous system	...					23	21
18—Coronary disease, angina	...					51	29
19—Hypertension with heart disease	...					2	2
20—Other heart disease	...					13	19
21—Other circulatory disease	...					7	8
22—Influenza	...					—	—
23—Pneumonia	...					14	8
24—Bronchitis	...					16	5
25—Other diseases of respiratory system	...					2	1
26—Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...					3	3
27—Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...					1	—
28—Nephritis and nephrosis	...					2	—
29—Hyperplasia of prostate	...					1	—
30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...					—	—
31—Congenital malformations	...					4	4
32—Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...					18	10
33—Motor vehicle accidents	...					6	—
34—All other accidents	...					6	3
35—Suicide	...					3	2

TABLE SHOWING THE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES SINCE
THE FORMATION OF THE LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL IN 1935.

1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
78.3	85.22	87.3	70.27	51.9	85.7	60.6	51.8	61.1
1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
35.95	76.54	35.95	36.68	43.68	38.87	31.47	25.80	38.31
1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
23.76	24.41	35.18	20.40	16.52	18.18	27.71	17.54	15.29
1962	1963	1964						
24.59	14.60	20.46						

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives the numbers and age groups of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year :—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1964.													
NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED													
	Age Group										Hospital	Deaths	
	At all Ages (1963)	U'der 1 year	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over			Age not k'wn
Whooping Cough ...	1 (38)	—	31	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	235 (709)	12	—	28	48	42	71	3	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	— (2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia... ..	3 (9)	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	5 (5)	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	27 (9)	—	3	1	1	4	16	1	—	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	2 (—)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	273 (772)	13	35	29	51	47	88	5	1	4	—	—	—

The following table shows the number of bacteriological specimens from the Longbenton Area examined in the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle, during 1964.

Examination Requested.	Positive	Negative.	Total.
Vincent's Angina	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Haemolytic Strep.	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Sputa	—	—	—
Enteric and Dysentery Groups ...	37	113	150
Staphylococcus Aureus	—	—	—
	37	113	150

TUBERCULOSIS, 1964.—The following Tables are self explanatory :—

	NEW CASES NOTIFIED FORM A				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 44 years ...	2	4	1	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 64 years ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over ...	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age not known ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	9	5	1	—	3	—	—	1

CASES TRANSFERRED INTO AREA.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years ...	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years ...	1	3	—	—
15 to 24 years ...	—	—	—	1
25 to 44 years ...	2	6	—	—
45 to 64 years ...	—	1	—	—
65 years and over ...	—	—	—	—
Age not known ...	—	—	—	—
	3	10	—	1

PARTICULARS OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER
as at 31st December, 1964.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	Total
Cases on Register at 1/1/64 ...	287	272	559	46	55	101	660
New Cases ...	9	5	14	1	—	1	15
Cases transferred into area ...	3	10	13	—	1	1	14
Cases Reinstated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases Removed	25	34	59	3	8	11	70
Cases on Register at 31/12/64 ...	274	253	527	44	48	92	619

SECTION C.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) Regular sampling of domestic water supplies throughout the district was continued, in all 45 samples were taken. In one instance the whole of the samples submitted in one day showed evidence of B.coli. Check samples were immediately taken which proved to be satisfactory as were samples submitted to the Water Company Laboratory for examination and it was considered that something was wrong in the technique. Another series taken on two different days again all proved to be unsatisfactory and, in this instance, it was reputed to be due to an electric fault in the laboratory. Further samples were submitted, and check samples examined at the Water Company Laboratory, all were found to be satisfactory and it was considered that the unsatisfactory samples had been caused due to the lids of the bottles being unsuitable for sterilisation. Bottles are now of the ground stopper type and the use of these has improved the position.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage—*

There have been no extensive alterations to drainage or sewerage during the year.

2. (i) *Rivers and Streams*—
No action has been necessary during the year.
- (ii) *Public Cleansing*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report for details.
- (iv) *Shops and Offices*—
Periodical visits are made to shops, especially food shops, in the area.
- (v) *Camping Sites*—
There is only one individual caravan licensed in the area.
- (vi) *Clean Air Act, 1946*—
Up to date nothing has been done to implement the above as regards the formation of Smoke Control Areas.
- (vii) *Swimming Pools and Baths*—
There are no swimming baths in the area.
- (viii) *Eradication of the Bed Bug*—
See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (ix) *Head Lice*—No special treatment was given.
Body Lice—No case of body lice was found.

SCHOOLS.

All schools in the area are provided with a sufficient and suitable water supply from the mains supply together with a water carriage system of sanitary accommodation. Periodical inspections are made of all schools and particular attention paid to those schools provided with school meals facilities, including kitchens.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The figures produced by the Housing Manager and the Senior Public Health Inspector show the extensive work carried out in the use of new Council houses.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply*—

Designated milk, viz., T.T. Raw, Pasteurised or Sterilised are only retailed in this area.

(b) Meat and Other Food—

Details of the work done in meat inspection are given in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

(c) Adulteration—

This service is administered by the Northumberland County Council.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food—

Samples of ice cream only were taken by this department for Bacteriological examination.

(e) Nutrition—

Talks were given to young mothers in Child Welfare Clinics.

(f) Shellfish and Molluscan—

There are no shellfish beds or layings in this area. Shellfish is rarely sold in the district.

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

The following Clinics are held in the district:—

BURRADON

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC	Alternate Thursday afternoons.
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC	Alternate Tuesday afternoons.

DUDLEY.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC	Every Tuesday—Full Day.
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC	Every Wednesday afternoon.
IMMUNISATION CLINIC	Monday afternoon—4 weekly,
TODDLER CLINIC	3rd Thursday in month —afternoon.
ANTE-NATAL TALKS	Usually Monday afternoons.

FOREST HALL.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC	Every Tuesday—full day.
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC	Every Wednesday afternoon.
IMMUNISATION CLINIC	Thursday morning—4 weekly.
TODDLER CLINICS (2)	Both held Thursday mornings —4 weekly.
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC combined with TODDLER CLINICS	Thursday—4 weekly.

KILLINGWORTH.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC Alternate Thursday afternoons.

Longbenton.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC	Every Monday, all day.
	Every Friday, all day.
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC	Every Tuesday afternoon.
	Every Wednesday, all day.
	Every Tuesday morning 11—12.
	Every Thursday morning 10—11.
	Every Thursday afternoon.
POLIO IMMUNISATION CLINIC	Thursday—4 weekly.
IMMUNISATION CLINIC	Every Friday with Child Welfare Clinic.
TODDLER CLINIC	Thursday—4 weekly.
RELAXATION CLASS	Thursday afternoons.
ANTE-NATAL TALKS	Thursday afternoons.

WOODLANDS PARK.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC	Every Tuesday afternoon.
	Alternate Friday mornings.
	Every Friday afternoon.
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC	Every Wednesday afternoon.
	Every Thursday morning.
TODDLER CLINIC	Held with Child Welfare Clinic.
IMMUNISATION CLINIC	Held with Child Welfare Clinic.
ANTE-NATAL TALKS	Every Thursday afternoon.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This is operated by Northumberland County Council, ambulances are supplied either from Wideopen Depot or Whitley Bay (for South part of District). For all parts of the area ambulances may be obtained by telephoning Wideopen 4141.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Northumberland County Council Home Help service operates in the district. Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required because of illness or confinement. The services of a Home Help are obtained on application to the South East Area Health Office, Whitley Bay. Applications need the support of a medical certificate.

LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE **SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

for the year ended 31st December, 1964.

—————

To the Chairman and Members of the

LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the Public Health Inspection and Refuse Collection Departments for the year 1964.

HOUSING.

Details showing the number of families re-housed during 1964 and the numbers still remaining on the Housing Applications List, have been kindly supplied by the Housing Manager who states that all present applicants have re-registered during the year.

The following table shows the number of houses allocated to the various types of applicants:

POINTS SCHEME.

Categories:	A	B	C	D & O.P.	Total
	10	2	16	35	66

OTHERS.

Special Allocations	...	...	...	17
Slum Clearance	...	...	...	7
Transfer of Tenancy	...	..	...	68
				—
				92
				—

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

88 houses were demolished in Ivy Road and Palmersville Compulsory areas, 4 houses treated as Individual Unfit Houses were also cleared. Preparations were made to deal with the Coal Board houses 1-40, Office Row, 1-14, Double Row, 1-25 Middle Row (odd numbers), 2-54 North Row (even numbers), 1-22 Burradon Terrace, 1-14 Annitsford Terrace, 38-42, Burradon Road, Burradon. These would have been dealt with by this date but have been held up owing to the difficulty in obtaining land for building of houses for re-housing.

Inspections have been made, and a scheme prepared, for the clearance of the houses, 1-28 Hazlerigg Street, Dudley, 1-26 Lorraine Street, and 1-19 Clayton Street, Dudley.

REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSES.

The number of complaints from tenants of privately owned houses are much less than previously. It may be that landlords, now having more rent, are carrying out repairs without being forced to do so. Instances have been found where tenants, owing to lack of security, have asked the department not to press for repairs to be carried out. This is making the work of the department difficult and can mean more expense on the landlords who do not see the wisdom of maintaining the houses in a good state of repair.

RENT ACT, 1957.

There were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair during the year, in so far as enforcing the maintenance of houses, the Act has failed in this Area.

TABLE 1.

	Number of Inspections during year.	Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-Laws.	Number of Informal Notices served	Defects remedied by Informal Action	Number of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied after Statutory Notices	Legal Proceedings
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
HOUSING (Including Housing Survey)—							
Structural Defects	121	62	147	1	—	—
Defective Food Store	1	1	1	—	—	—
Dampness	20	23	28	—	—	—
Slum Clearance and Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—	—
WATER SUPPLY—							
Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unsatisfactory	2	4	8	—	—	—
DRAINAGE							
Insufficient	1	2	3	—	—	—
Unsatisfactory	49	41	62	—	—	—
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—							
Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unsatisfactory	—	—	—	—	—	—
Defective Dustbins	56	46	54	1	—	—
Nuisances, Watercourses and Offensive Accumulations	...	12	9	18	—	1	—
Tents, Vans, and Sheds	11	3	11	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rodent and Pest Control	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keeping of Animals	—	—	—	—	—	—
FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1960—							
Public Houses and Food Premises	81	25	75	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	26	—	—	—	—	3
Shops Act, 1950	131	14	25	—	—	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	136	19	—	—	—	—
Milk and Dairies Regulations	12	1	2	—	—	—
Meat Inspection & Food Inspection & Slaughterhouses (Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations).	...	146	—	—	—	—	—
Public Cleansing	5	3	3	—	—	—
Factories Act	11	8	13	—	—	—
Clean Air Act 1956	1	1	1	—	—	—
Rent Act, 1957	—	—	—	—	—	—
Petroleum Regulations	—	—	—	—	—	—
Agriculture, Safety Health and Welfare Regulations	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5161	479	262	451	2	1	3

TABLE II.
H O U S I N G .

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1964.

Houses Completed during the Year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
By Local Authority	36	—	36
By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
By private persons	—	53	53
Total	36	53	89

Total number of Inhabited Houses in District, 14,638.
Total number of Houses owned by Local Authority 3,629.

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES.

A. FORMAL ACTION.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of houses demolished during 1964 as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action | 88 |
| (Number of houses included in above which were from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas) ... | — |
| (2) Number of houses <i>closed</i> but not demolished as a result of formal action | 4 |

B. INFORMAL ACTION.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above | — |
| (2) Houses demolished | — |

RECONDITIONING AND REPAIR.

Number of houses made fit during 1964 by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) As a result of Informal Action | 161 |
| (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice ... | — |
| (c) By Local Authority in default of owners ... | — |

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A. *Discretionary Grants.*

1.	Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	...	...	...	...	...	25
2.	Applications rejected by Local Authority during year	...	...	...	...	...	—
3.	Applications approved by Local Authority during year	...	...	...	...	...	25
4.	Approximate average grant approved per house	...	...	...	...	...	£223-14-0
5.	Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme	...	...	...	...	...	223

B. *Standard Grants.*

						Total to Date
1.	Number of separate houses for which grants were made during the year	...	...	...	5	77
2.	Number of houses provided with :—					
	(a) Bath or shower	...	...	...	2	58
	(b) Washhand basin	...	...	...	2	61
	(c) Hot water supply	...	...	...	2	55
	(d) Water closet	...	...	...	5	78
	(e) Foodstore	...	...	...	3	44

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES.

A total of 30 houses were improved during the year, 25 as a result of "Discretionary" grants and 5 "Standard" grants. No further scheme of block treatments were carried out. It has been found that the preparation of plans and specifications, obtaining of tenders and supervising the work was an added strain the department could not carry.

The Council have considered the 1964 Act, especially with regard to compulsory improvement. Instructions have been given to inspect one terrace of 30 houses in West Allotment area where there has already been a number of houses improved. It will be necessary to engage architects in order to prepare the scheme after the initial inspection has been made as the department has not the staff to carry such a scheme out. It is regretted that the 200 houses, (for which the Coal Board have submitted a tentative programme) but have not reached agreement with the tenants, has not yet been submitted.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Oc'piers P'cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	10	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	73	31	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)	29	35	5	—
Total	112	71	8	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp'ctor	By H.M. Insp'ctor	
Want of Cleanliness (Sec. 1)	4	4	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	5	5	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
Total	11	11	—	—	—

TABLE OF OUTWORKERS.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August List.	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel Making, etc.	5	—	—	—	—	—
All other outworkers	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	6	—	—	—	—	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The very high proportion of houses in the district with a water supply (.03% only are without) leaves little room for improvement. Only four instances were found where the supply was unsatisfactory and none where it was insufficient.

DRAINAGE.

It is noted that it was necessary to draw attention to unsatisfactory drainage in 41 instances and insufficient in 2—all were dealt with by informal action.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

There were no instances found of insufficient sanitary conveniences in the district but, in 36 instances there were unsatisfactory closets which needed attention.

ASHBINS.

Informal action was necessary for the renewal of some 54 dustbins. It was not necessary to take any formal action under Section 75 of the Act.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

One instance was found where a small septic tank was not functioning properly at a small farm and was causing pollution of a watercourse. Owing to the difficulty of proportioning responsibility between the owners and the occupier some time had to elapse and, in order to avoid a nuisance, the cesspool was emptied by the Council's gulley emptier.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year there were three instances where we had to arrange for the disposal of the dead, in one the lady had no relatives but had a trustee to her will who did not desire to act. However, she agreed that if we made the arrangements she would pay the accounts. Another instance was where a newly born male child was found in Gosforth Park. After arrangements were made for the funeral it was learned that the body had been found in part of the park under the jurisdiction of Castle Ward and the accounts were submitted to them. One further instance of a man who was reputed to have no assets, however, we were able to collect sufficient insurance, etc., to pay all our expenses.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Our experience of 1963, when calls upon our services for the treatment of cockroach infestations fell to 92 from 151 in 1962, did not continue as there were 101 calls in 1964, those for Council houses being charged against Housing Revenue Account and not against the individual occupiers and it would appear that the present system of treatment whereby a second treatment is given within three months of the initial treatment so as to kill off any young which have hatched out following the initial treatment, before they can mature and breed.

The furniture of all tenants moving into Council houses is inspected for bed bugs and, if necessary, is treated with a solution of D.D.T. in Kerosene.

It is noted that treatments in private houses this year have been reduced to one only for bed bugs, which is a great improvement on the days before the outbreak of war when many houses were infested with vermin.

The following table shows the number of treatments given:

	No. of Houses Inspected		No. of Houses Treated by L.A.	
	Council	Private	Council	Private
Furniture Inspections	74	66	58	48
Cockroaches	125	101	22	20
Bed Bugs... ..	3	2	1	1
Fleas	7	7	2	2
Mosquitoes	—	—	7	5
Blow Flies	1	1	1	1
Red Spider	—	—	2	2
Bees	1	1	1	1
Woodworm	2	2	3	3
Earwigs	3	1	3	3
Wasps	2	2	3	3
Cluster Flies	4	4	2	1
Clover Mite	1	1	—	—
Grain Weevil	1	1	—	—
TOTALS	224	189	105	90

TEXTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There are no caravan sites licensed in the area. There is one caravan licensed and used by the owner of a market garden which is a considerable distance from a built-up area.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

(i)	Number of Food Premises in the Area	...	259
(ii)	Registered Premises	... ..	139
(iii)	Number of Inspections of Registered Premises		878

MOBILE SHOPS.

There is still a considerable number of mobile shops operating throughout the district, not only on new estates where new shops have been provided, but in the whole of the district. It would appear that there is a trend towards making visits to shops and it is felt that perhaps the number of vans is being reduced. Vans are inspected regularly to see that the Food Hygiene Regulations are being complied with.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

We were able to have the whole of the premises registered before the end of 1964 but were only able to have general inspections made of 30.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.
Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

There were three licensed slaughterhouses in the district where regular slaughter was taking place until 31st January, 1964.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNATIONS.
(January, 1964 only)

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed	277	49	8	968	180	1482
Number Inspected	277	49	8	968	180	1482
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	5	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	146	29	—	235	37	447
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	52.7%	58.3%	—	24.7%	20.5%	30.5%
Total weight of meat and offal condemned (lbs.) ...	1479	450	—	809	138	2876
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organs were condemned	—	—	—	—	2	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.11%	—
Total weight of meat and offal condemned (lbs.)	—	—	—	—	17	17
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	—	6
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of Bovine Carcasses inspected affected with C. Bovis.	2.16%	—	—	—	—	0.01%
Total weight of meat and offal condemned. (lbs.)	123	—	—	—	—	123

TABLE IV.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Unsound Food				Sur-rendered	Seized	Legal Pro-ceedings
1.	Beef (Imported)	...	lbs.	—	—	—
2.	Mutton (Imported)	...	"	—	—	—
3.	Pork (Imported)...	...	"	—	—	—
4.	Game	...	"	—	—	—
5.	Poultry	...	"	174	—	—
6.	Fish	...	"	—	—	—
7.	Fruit	...	"	—	—	—
8.	Canned Goods	...	Cans	280	—	—
9.	Bottles and Jars	...	"	3	—	—
10.	Other Foods	...	lbs.	1	—	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

Eleven samples of Ice Cream which were submitted for bacteriological examination were all placed in Provisional Grade 1.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Particulars of samples of Food and Drugs taken in the Urban District have been kindly provided by Mr. C. L. Arlidge, County Weights and Measures Inspector.

The following is a list of samples taken :—

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Milk	45	45	—
Milk (School) ...	12	12	—
Other samples ...	88	88	—
Other samples (School)	6	6	—
Other samples ...	1	—	1
	<hr/> 152	<hr/> 151	<hr/> 1

In one sample of sage and onion stuffing mix it was found that the fat content was turning rancid. Old stock was withdrawn from sale and no legal action was taken. The vendor was verbally cautioned.

During the year it was necessary to report to the Committee on the following :—

1. Finger marks inside a milk bottle.
2. Mould on margarine.
3. Mould and mites on chocolate cake.
4. Bacon decomposed.

A conviction was obtained in each being (1) £5 and costs, (2) £25 and costs, (3) £10 0s. 0d. and £5 5s. 0d. costs, (4) £25 and £5 5s. 0d. costs.

COLLECTION OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The standard reached by this Council of having each bin emptied at least once per week has been maintained almost 100% during the year and, in certain districts three times per fortnight is recorded last year.

STATISTICS.

I beg to append statistics with reference to the refuse collected. The figures are based upon the estimated population for mid-year 1964—47,770 and 15,154 premises at 31/3/65.

HOUSE REFUSE ONLY.

Estimated quantity removed	...	...	22,386 tons
Approximate average weight per house	...		1.47 tons
Average per 1,000 population per day (365 days)	...	...	26.8 cwts
Total cost of collection (Refuse, Salvage)...			£34,250
Cost of disposal	...	...	6,847
			<hr/> £41,097
Less Income from Salvage, Tips, Bins, etc...			6,445
			<hr/>
Nett Cost—Collection and Disposal	...		£34,652

UNIT COSTS.

(Income from Salvage, excluding Kitchen Waste, is credited to Disposal).

	<i>Collection</i>		<i>Disposal.</i>		<i>Total.</i>	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Gross cost per ton, labour only	18	7	3	4	21	11
Gross cost per ton, transport only	11	7	6½		12	1½
Nett cost (all expenditure)	30	2	6		30	8
<hr/>						
Nett cost per 1,000 population	£ 693		£ 28		£ 721	
Nett cost per 1,000 premises	2,161		88		2,249	
			£ s. d.			
Average cost per establishment					2	5 1
Average cost per head population					14	4
Cost on the rates in the £						7.3
Average cost for emptying one bin						8.22

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

As reported last year, the whole of the refuse, and that of Gosforth Urban District Council, has been tipped under strictly controlled tipping lines in a field near Benton Square School which is within 20/30 yards of housing accommodation. The present nature of the refuse, which is now largely dirty paper, makes tipping near habitation most difficult, although the tip has been screened with wire mesh, paper has been found almost threequarters of a mile from the tip when it has escaped the restriction of the netting. The tip has been kept almost free from rats or insects as regular inspections are made for the former and any treatment necessary given and, the latter, regular spraying is carried out so as to prevent infestation although our system of control by sealing keeps both the rat and fly population to a minimum.

TRADE REFUSE.

Contracts have been made with shopkeepers for an annual charge, payable in advance, of 13/- per bin. Traders invariably object to paying for the removal of trade refuse, but generally, this system works satisfactorily.

SALVAGE.

It is to be noted that our waste paper has been reduced by some 31 tons during the year as the Thames Board Mills placed a restriction on the amount to be accepted.

<i>Waste Paper</i>	<i>Rags</i>
542 tons Value £4,641	6½ cwts Value £6 11s.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Regular inspections and treatments were made to the refuse tip and sewage disposal works. Allotments and small-holdings in the district are kept under strict observation. Inspections are made by the Council's Rodent Operator and co-operation has been obtained with the respective owners where any infestation of rats has been found. We have contracts with a number of farmers and their premises are given four regular services per year, although the treatments necessary are comparatively small, the farmers seem to be quite satisfied in that we are keeping the premises free from large infestations.

SEWERS.

Test baiting of sewers was carried out in May and November, only four "takes" of bait were recorded each time and these on the same area.

It is to be noted that the number of inspections have fallen from 2,074 to 1,866. At the same time the number of treatments found necessary has fallen from 298 to 290 and it is felt that these figures show that our methods are being successful.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

Type of Property		No. of Properties in District	No. of Properties Surveyed (Inc. Re-surveys)	No. of Inspections Made	No. treated by L.A.
Local Authority ...		23	38	69	12
Business		1459	124	256	43
HOUSES	L.A. ...	14577	143	463	69
	Private ...		385	769	142
Agri-cultural	Allotments ...	360 approx	194	234	12
	Others ...	28	28	75	12
Totals... ..		16447	912	1866	290

Bodies recovered : 155 Rats and 42 Mice.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The figures appended below are obtained from our Volumetric Atmospheric Pollution Gauge and SO₂ Recorder show that from May to October again the pollution was very light. Both the smoke and the sulphur dioxide figures show almost corresponding curve. It is noted that our highest monthly average for smoke is 377 and the SO₂ is 272, the corresponding figures for the apparatus at the Scientific Department of the National Coal Board, Benton, which have been supplied by the courtesy of Dr. D. A. Hall, Divisional Chief Scientist show their highest average for smoke to be 205 and their SO₂ reading 81. Attention was drawn to this position last year which has again confirmed that the lower reading at the Grange, Benton, is likely to be brought about because half of its perimeter is in open country and the whole of our station is in a built up area, again indicating that our high readings are being caused by domestic smoke and not by drift from industrial areas of the Tyneside.

The record of deposits for the year 31/12/64, also taken by the Scientific Department, National Coal Board, at the Grange, Benton, shows a considerable decrease from 214 to 97.05 tons per square mile. It is noted that the record of rainfall at the Grange has been reduced from 27.85 inches to 16.22 inches and it may be that the improvement in the weather during 1963 could be the reason of the reduction in deposits measured.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION, 1964.

	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
	Micrograms per cubic metre.			Micrograms per cubic metre.		
MONTH	Monthly Average.	Highest daily Average.	Lowest daily Average.	Monthly Average.	Highest daily Average.	Lowest daily Average.
January ...	259	528	68	153	331	51
February ...	194	352	32	112	319	13
March ...	149	460	56	113	226	40
April ...	161	356	24	122	219	39
May ...	112	186	23	76	261	27
June ...	95	280	17	65	190	35
July ...	60	142	13	66	151	7
August ...	76	130	8	70	127	41
September ...	87	179	6	99	219	42
October ...	212	380	44	134	253	65
November ...	248	848	16	147	446	13
December ...	324	892	64	176	528	66

The table below shows the total deposits per square mile since 1951 and other data for 1964.

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Tons	236	208	197	146	191	185	177	196	159	141	130	144	214
Year	1964												
Tons	97												

Rainfall	...	...	16.22 inches
Insoluble Deposit	...	...	68.82 tons per square mile
Soluble Deposit	...	...	28.23 tons per square mile
Total Solid Deposit	...	...	<hr/>97.05

In conclusion I would like to pay tribute to the inspectorial staff, Mr. R. P. Bruce, Mr. Atkinson for work in connection with rodent and pest control and Mr. A. G. Lister for work in the refuse collection service and the clerical staff of the department for their loyalty and co-operation throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,

W. N. LOCKEY,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

MICROGRAMS PER CUBIC METER

Graph to show smoke and S.O.₂ pollution for the year 1964.



